

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-4, 6-8, 10, 11, 14-16, 22-25, 27, 28 and 31, without prejudice.

1 1.-4. (Cancelled)

1 5. (Currently Amended) A fuel for a direct methanol fuel cell ~~as in claim 4 where~~  
2 comprising:  
3 methanol; and  
4 an effective amount of an additive that undergoes a reaction with water to produce  
5 small molecules that are easily electro oxidized wherein the additive is about 20 mole  
6 percent dimethyloxymethane, and an ~~the~~ indicating dye that includes sulfonated activated  
7 carbon particles.

1 6.-8. (Cancelled)

1 9. (Currently Amended) A fuel for a direct methanol fuel cell ~~as in claim 8 where~~  
2 comprising:  
3 methanol;  
4 an effective amount of an additive that undergoes a reaction with water to produce  
5 small molecules that are easily electro oxidized wherein the additive is methylorthofor-  
6 mate in such a proportion that the fuel comprises about 10 mole percent methylorthofor-  
7 mate; and  
8 an ~~the~~ indicating dye that includes sulfonated activated carbon particles.

1 10. (Cancelled)

1 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A fuel for a direct methanol fuel cell ~~as in claim 11 further comprising~~ comprising:

methanol;

an effective amount of an additive that undergoes a reaction with water to produce small molecules that are easily electro oxidized wherein the additive is tetramethylorthocarbonate in such a proportion that the fuel comprises about 10 mole percent tetramethylorthocarbonate; and

less than about .1% but greater than 0% by weight of an indicating dye.

13. (Original) A fuel for a direct methanol fuel cell as in claim 12 where the indicating dye includes sulfonated activated carbon particles.

14.-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A fuel for a direct methanol fuel cell ~~as in claim 16 where comprising:~~

methanol;

an effective amount of an additive that undergoes a reaction with water to produce small molecules that are easily electro oxidized wherein the additive is trimethylborate in such a proportion that the fuel comprises about 7 mole percent trimethylborate; and  
an the-indicating dye that includes sulfonated activated carbon particles.

18. (Currently Amended) A fuel for a direct methanol fuel cell ~~as in claim 1 wherein comprising:~~

methanol; and

an effective amount of an additive that undergoes a reaction with water to produce small molecules that are easily electro oxidized wherein the additive is tetramethylorthosilicate.

- 1 19. (Original) A fuel for a direct methanol fuel cell as in claim 18, wherein the fuel  
2 comprises about 5 mole percent tetramethylorthosilicate.
- 1 20. (Original) A fuel for a direct methanol fuel cell as in claim 19 further comprising  
2 less than about .1% by weight of an indicating dye.
- 1 21. (Original) A fuel for a direct methanol fuel cell as in claim 20 where the indicat-  
2 ing dye includes sulfonated activated carbon particles.
- 1 22.-31.(Cancelled)
- 1 32. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~~~The~~ method of preparing a fuel mixture for a direct  
2 methanol fuel cell ~~as in claim 30-31 further~~ comprising the steps of:  
3 providing a supply of concentrated methanol;  
4 adding an additive which is a fuel precursor in an effective amount such that said  
5 additive undergoes a reaction with water to produce small molecules that are easily elec-  
6 tro oxidized selected from the group consisting of: dimethyloxymethane, methylortho-  
7 formate, tetramethyl orthocarbonate, trimethyl borate, and tetramethyl orthosilicate; and  
8 adding at least one metal hydride selected from the group consisting of LiAlH<sub>4</sub>,  
9 NaBH<sub>4</sub>, LiBH<sub>4</sub>, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> NHBH<sub>3</sub>, NaAlH<sub>4</sub>, B<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, NaCNBH<sub>3</sub>, CaH<sub>2</sub>, LiH, NaH, KH and  
10 sodium bis (2-methoxyethoxy) dihydridaluminate.